

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1-6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) Removable roof ~~according to Claim 3,~~ for a motor vehicle passenger car, which covers an opening between a windshield frame and a vehicle body frame structure of a body of the passenger car extending behind vehicle occupant seats, said roof comprising dimensionally stable material and being held in position, on the one hand, by a form-lockingly acting fixing system and, on the other hand, by a locking system,

wherein the roof comprises two roof elements fitted together without hinges in a longitudinal center plane of the passenger car, each roof element cooperating with the windshield frame by a first fixing device and a second fixing device of the fixing system, and cooperating with the vehicle body frame structure by a locking device of the locking system,

wherein the first fixing device has a flange-type forward roof extension of the roof element of the roof which extends in a longitudinal direction of the vehicle and reaches under an exterior leg wall of an open U-shaped receiving device of an upper cross member of the windshield frame, which receiving device is oriented toward the roof element,

wherein the second fixing device comprises at least one bearing journal which projects into a receiving bore, and

wherein the bearing journal is held in position by means of an elastic device on the roof element.

8. (Previously presented) Removable roof according to Claim 7, wherein the elastic device has two elastic bodies which are spaced in a transverse direction of the vehicle and have circular-cylindrical cross-sections, which, on first sides, are held on a cross member of the roof element, and which, on their other sides, are connected with a plate-type holding member for the bearing journal.

9. (Original) Removable roof according to Claim 8, wherein each elastic body rests by a threaded pin in a threaded bore in a metallic insert of the roof element.

10. (Original) Removable roof according to Claim 8, wherein the holding member is connected by means of screws with the elastic bodies.

11. (Original) Removable roof according to Claim 8, wherein the bearing pin extends in a longitudinal center plane between the elastic bodies and, by means of a threaded pin and a screw nut, is connected with the holding member.

12. (Previously presented) Removable roof according to Claim 8, wherein the elastic device with the elastic bodies and the holding member is arranged at least in a largely sunk manner in a recess of the roof element.

13. (Original) Removable roof according to Claim 8, wherein for each roof element, two bearing pins with elastic bodies are provided which cooperate with corresponding receiving bores of the windshield frame.

14. (Currently amended) Removable roof ~~according to Claim 3, for a~~  
motor vehicle passenger car, which covers an opening between a windshield  
frame and a vehicle body frame structure of a body of the passenger car  
extending behind vehicle occupant seats, said roof comprising dimensionally  
stable material and being held in position, on the one hand, by a form-lockingly  
acting fixing system and, on the other hand, by a locking system,

wherein the roof comprises two roof elements fitted together without  
hinges in a longitudinal center plane of the passenger car, each roof element  
cooperating with the windshield frame by a first fixing device and a second fixing  
device of the fixing system, and cooperating with the vehicle body frame  
structure by a locking device of the locking system,

wherein the first fixing device has a flange-type forward roof extension of  
the roof element of the roof which extends in a longitudinal direction of the  
vehicle and reaches under an exterior leg wall of an open U-shaped receiving

device of an upper cross member of the windshield frame, which receiving device is oriented toward the roof element.

wherein the second fixing device comprises at least one bearing journal which projects into a receiving bore, and

wherein, in a longitudinal sectional view, the bearing journal extends at an acute angle ( $\alpha$ ) with respect to a horizontal line.

15. (Currently amended) Removable roof according to Claim 3, for a motor vehicle passenger car, which covers an opening between a windshield frame and a vehicle body frame structure of a body of the passenger car extending behind vehicle occupant seats, said roof comprising dimensionally stable material and being held in position, on the one hand, by a form-lockingly acting fixing system and, on the other hand, by a locking system,

wherein the roof comprises two roof elements fitted together without hinges in a longitudinal center plane of the passenger car, each roof element cooperating with the windshield frame by a first fixing device and a second fixing device of the fixing system, and cooperating with the vehicle body frame structure by a locking device of the locking system,

wherein the first fixing device has a flange-type forward roof extension of the roof element of the roof which extends in a longitudinal direction of the vehicle and reaches under an exterior leg wall of an open U-shaped receiving

device of an upper cross member of the windshield frame, which receiving device is oriented toward the roof element,

wherein the second fixing device comprises at least one bearing journal which projects into a receiving bore, and

wherein the bearing journal of the second fixing device and the flange-type roof extension of the first fixing device extend at an acute angle ( $\beta$ ) with respect to one another in a longitudinal sectional view.

16-33. (Canceled)

34. (Previously presented) Removable roof for a motor vehicle passenger car, which covers an opening between a windshield frame and a vehicle body frame structure of a body of the passenger car extending behind vehicle occupant seats, said roof comprising dimensionally stable material and being held in position, on the one hand, by a form-lockingly acting fixing system and, on the other hand, by a locking system,

wherein the roof comprises two roof elements fitted together without hinges in a longitudinal center plane of the passenger car, each roof element cooperating with the windshield frame by a first fixing device and a second fixing device of the fixing system, and cooperating with the vehicle body frame structure by a locking device of the locking system,

wherein along the longitudinal center plane of the roof, the one roof element by means of a first lateral roof element extension projects so as to overlap a groove of the other roof element which, by means of a second lateral roof element extension, also projects so as to overlap the groove, and

wherein, for sealing-off the roof elements along the longitudinal center plane, a first sealing section, a second sealing section and a third sealing section are operative.

35. (Original) Removable roof according to Claim 34, wherein the first sealing section and the third sealing section are constructed as sealing lips which interact with interior walls of the first lateral roof element extension and of the second lateral roof element extension respectively.

36. (Original) Removable roof according to Claim 34, wherein the second sealing section extends between the roof elements and is constructed as a sealing body with a circular cross-section, on which ends of the first lateral roof element extension and of the second lateral roof element extension are supported.

37. (Original) Removable roof according to Claim 34, wherein the sealing sections are components of a sealing body which is made of one piece and is held in position in the groove of the other roof element.

38. (Original) Removable roof according to Claim 35, wherein the sealing sections are components of a sealing body which is made of one piece and is held in position in the groove of the other roof element.

39. (Original) Removable roof according to Claim 36, wherein the sealing sections are components of a sealing body which is made of one piece and is held in position in the groove of the other roof element.

40-43. (Canceled)

44. (Currently amended) A passenger vehicle roof assembly according to Claim 42, operable to cover a vehicle roof opening between a windshield frame and a vehicle body frame structure, said roof assembly comprising:

first and second dimensionally stable roof elements configured to be fitted together in a longitudinal centerplane of the vehicle,

a fixing system for accommodating form locking fixing of the roof elements at the windshield frame, said fixing system including a pair of spaced first and second fixing devices for each roof element, and

a locking system operable to lock the roof elements at the vehicle body frame structure, said locking system including a locking device for each roof element,

wherein the first fixing device has a flange-type forward roof extension of the roof element of the roof which extends in a longitudinal direction of the vehicle and reaches under an exterior leg wall of an open U-shaped receiving device of an upper cross member of the windshield frame, which receiving device is oriented toward the roof element,

wherein the second fixing device comprises at least one bearing journal which projects into a receiving bore, and

wherein the bearing journal is held in position by means of an elastic device on the roof element.

45. (Previously presented) A roof assembly according to Claim 44, wherein the elastic device has two elastic bodies which are spaced in a transverse direction of the vehicle and have circular-cylindrical cross-sections, which, on first sides, are held on a cross member of the roof element, and which, on their other sides, are connected with a plate-type holding member for the bearing journal.

46-48. (Canceled)



49. (Currently amended) A passenger vehicle roof assembly ~~according to Claim 40~~, operable to cover a vehicle roof opening between a windshield frame and a vehicle body frame structure, said roof assembly comprising:

first and second dimensionally stable roof elements configured to be fitted together in a longitudinal centerplane of the vehicle,

a fixing system for accommodating form locking fixing of the roof elements at the windshield frame, said fixing system including a pair of spaced first and second fixing devices for each roof element, and

a locking system operable to lock the roof elements at the vehicle body frame structure, said locking system including a locking device for each roof element,

wherein along the longitudinal center plane of the roof, the one roof element by means of a first lateral roof element extension projects so as to overlap a groove of the other roof element which, by means of a second lateral roof element extension, also projects so as to overlap the groove, and

wherein, for sealing-off the roof elements along the longitudinal center plane, a first sealing section, a second sealing section and a third sealing section are operative.

50. (Original) A roof assembly according to Claim 49, wherein the first sealing section and the third sealing section are constructed as sealing lips which interact with interior walls of the first lateral roof element extension and of the second lateral roof element extension respectively.

51. (Original) A roof assembly according to Claim 49, wherein the sealing sections are components of a sealing body which is made of one piece and is held in position in the groove of the other roof element.